

For Immediate Release
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County to Receive Funding for Storm Drain in Dairy Area

The following items came before the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors during their September 24th meeting:

- The Board unanimously approved a cooperative agreement with the federal government, in which the county will be provided funding up to \$5.6 million for the Euclid-Philadelphia Storm Drain in the Chino area. The storm drain will be constructed along Euclid Avenue from Philadelphia Street to the existing Sultana-Cypress Storm Drain, and will include catch basins and construction of 3-foot retaining walls for freeboard along both sides of the 7,900 feet of the existing Cypress Channel from Riverside Drive to just south of Edison Avenue. The drain is needed to prevent street and overland storm flows from entering the dairy land areas of Chino and is expected to cost a total of \$6.7 million. The Euclid-Philadelphia Storm Drain is part of a larger project begun in 1998 to protect the dairy lands from flooding that has been experienced in the past. The Grove Avenue Detention Basin and the Riverside Drive Storm Drain are also part of this project, and serve to protect the westerly portion of the dairy land areas.

“I am pleased to see the federal government provide these funds to assist in the county’s ongoing efforts to secure the dairy areas from the kind of flooding that was experienced in early 1998,” commented Fourth District Supervisor Fred Aguiar.

- The Board of Supervisors unanimously adopted a tough new policy relating to Workforce Investment Board contracts with its board members. The county’s Workforce Investment Board works with the county to ensure that the labor demands of the business community are most effectively satisfied. The federal act that created the Workforce Investment Board requires that its membership include representatives of the business community and specified service providers. Since key providers of workforce development and training services compromise the Workforce Investment Board, which oversees the distribution of funds for such services, the new policy was adopted to maintain the faith and confidence of the public and ensure that the interest of the county are protected in all contracts. The policy requires Workforce Investment Board members to complete a Conflict of Interest Full Disclosure

Certification at the time of application and requires the member to abstain from any discussion or vote on any contract, subcontract, or purchase order related to services to be provided by the member or the entity the member represents. In addition, the policy requires the awarding of any contract, subcontract, or purchase order be based on a competitive or standard application process and prohibits any Workforce Investment Board member from lobbying on behalf of a contract under which they would provide services to the Board.

“The policy adopted today will help ensure that all Workforce Investment Board contracts are approved on the basis of competitive or standard processes, and that any potential conflicts of interest are identified early in the process,” commented Supervisor Fred Aguiar. “This will protect the best interests of county residents and preserve the integrity of the Workforce Investment Board.”

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